

# TIGER TALES

THANKFUL

October 17, 2025

## What's Happening!

### Picture Retake Day

Picture Retake Day will be on  
Thursday, November 13

If you would like your child's picture re-taken, please return their packet of pictures on retake day. Be sure to include a note explaining what you didn't like about the original photo, so the photographer will know the reason for the retake.

## Spirit Week

Spirit Week is coming up  
10/27 - 10/31

Please see page 3 of Tiger Tales  
for more details

## MIDDLE SCHOOL SOCIAL

**Friday, October 17**  
**6-8PM**

Want to chaperone, volunteer, or donate snacks/drinks for the 2025-2026 school year? We would appreciate your help! Please sign up using the link below:  
<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/4090B49AFA82EA6FF2-58622140-dcssocials>

*Reminder that if you are planning to volunteer or attend a field trip with your child this school year please complete a volunteer form and return to the main office.  
Thank you!*



## TREAT STREET AT DCS

**October 25, 2025**  
**2-3:30pm**

Trick or Treating ends at 3:00 or whenever candy runs out!

Trick or treating, a ghostly scavenger hunt, and a costume fashion show!



### Treat Street is Coming!

#### What is Treat Street?

The ghoulish annual PTA Halloween party will take place at DCS on Saturday, October 25th 2:00-3:30pm. (Note: The trick or treating will end at 3:00 or until we run out of candy, whichever happens first!)

#### The Main Event...

From 2-3:00pm, walk through the K-2 hallway (in your costume!), collecting candy and voting on your favorite door.

#### When You're Done...

Head to the cafeteria to walk across the stage and have your picture taken in your costume! Then grab a snack in the cafeteria and play outside on the playground (while you're out there, check out the ghost scavenger hunt!).

#### There's More!

Visit the book fair one last time before it closes until March.

#### Who's Invited?

DCS students in grades PK-4, their family members, and any future Tigers! Students in grades 5 and up may wish to be involved by decorating a door.

#### How can YOU help?

- Sign up to decorate a door!
- Drop off **candy donations** anytime starting the week of Oct. 14th! Drop off in the DCS office or send them in with your child to "feed" to Sam the Spider, located in the lobby!
- Donate **snacks** (goldfish, pretzels, water bottles, etc.) for our Costume Parade/Photo Booth in the cafeteria.
- Sign up to help with **set up** (Friday, 10/24 from 5:30-7:30pm-- pizza will be served!) or **clean up** (Saturday, 10/25 from 3:30-5:00pm).

[Click here to sign up to make a donation or to help with set up/clean up!](#)



# BOOK Fair

2025

**OCTOBER 20-25**

Join us for the Fall Book Fair during conference week. Every purchase you make will benefit our school and allow us to add to our library.

Monday - Wednesday - 9am to 7pm  
Thursday - 1:30pm to 7pm  
Friday - 1:30pm to 4pm  
Saturday (During Treat Street) - 2pm to 3:30pm

Student Raffle to happen during the week. One child from each class will win a free book -- \$5 or below.

**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!!**  
Please sign up here...no experience necessary! We'll teach you how to run the register.  
<http://bit.ly/487FKGq> (or use the QR code above!)

At the link below, you will find more information on eWallet for your student and their teacher as well as all the great books that will be available.  
<http://bit.ly/3VJcEps>

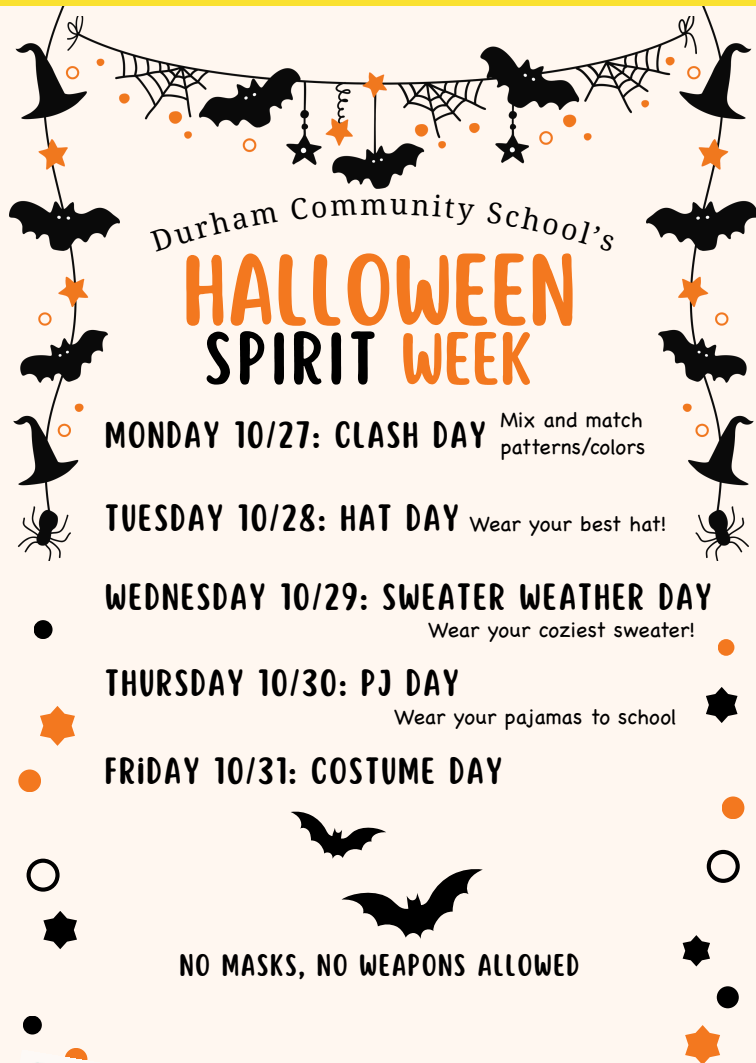
## Fall Book Fair

The [Fall Book Fair](#) is a great way to showcase books to all kids and staff at our school! Profits from the Book Fair go directly to support our amazing library AND our enrichment and community-building activities for our students.

### How can YOU help?

- Sign up for a time to help run the register! It's really very easy AND we will help train you! [Please click on this link to sign up.](#)
- Visit the book fair during conference week, and make a purchase to support our school! The Book Fair will be open the week of 10/20, during the school day and in the evening during parent teacher conferences:
  - Monday-Wednesday from 9:00am - 7:00pm
  - Thursday from 1:30pm - 7:00pm
  - Friday from 1:30pm - 4:00pm
  - Saturday from 2:00pm - 3:30pm (during Treat Street!)

*Pro Tip!* Visit our school's unique [Scholastic Book Fair site](#) and set up an "e-wallet." Your child can shop the Book Fair with their class, without bringing any cash to school!



## Grades K-3 **Family Math Night**

Thursday November 13th  
 6:00-7:00 DCS Cafeteria

Join us for Counting Activities and  
 Games!

28 29 30 31 32 33 34 35 36 37 38 39 40 41 42



Odyssey of the Mind is an international creative problem-solving competition. Teams of 3-7 students work all year to create a "solution" to one of five creative challenges. All challenges are a blend of STEM and the performing arts.

### **Want to start or join a team?**

Interested families should email the RSU5 OM coordinators at [om@rsu5.org](mailto:om@rsu5.org) to learn more.



Perfect for creative kids who love hands-on projects and performing!

### **Planned Absences**

If you know your family will be away, please fill out the planned absence form on the next page and return it to the main office.

A planned absence for a personal or educational purpose that is pre-approved will count as an excused absence.

Without pre-approval these absences are considered unexcused.

### **REMINDER TO CHECK LOST AND FOUND**

Lost and found has accumulated over the first month of school. Please make sure to write your child's name on their clothes, lunch boxes, water bottles, etc. so that we can return any items that end up in lost and found.



## Your DCS PTA is off to a great start this fall!

UPCOMING  
EVENTS!

### In the next two months, we will be organizing:

- \*The Fall Scholastic Book Fair (Oct. 20-25)
- \* Conference Week Treats for Teachers (also Oct. 20-24)
- \* Treat Street (Saturday, 10/25 from 2-3:30pm)
- \* The 13th Annual DCS Craft Fair (Sunday, 12/7 from 9am-2pm)

### Conference Week Treats for Teachers

Donate to Help Stock the Teachers' Rooms!

Fall Conference Week is coming up (October 20-24) and we know this means our teachers will be working long days. To offer them some support and keep the pep in their steps, we are looking for families to please donate some snacks and beverages so we can keep our teachers' rooms stocked! This very simple gesture makes all the difference to our teachers and support staff. [Please click here to donate food items](#), which can be dropped off starting Friday, Oct. 17th.

No time to shop or bake? Please consider contributing to our conference week snacks by [clicking this link](#) and donating via PayPal (note: you don't need a PayPal account to donate via this method). Thanks in advance for your support of our DCS teachers and community!

### 13th Annual DCS Craft Fair

**Sunday, December 7th, 9:00am-2:00pm**

You don't want to miss this well-loved community event! [Check out our event page on Facebook](#) for more details.

### Another Way to Help

Not sure if you'll have time to help, but would love to support the work of the PTA?

We would gratefully accept your tax deductible donation! Your financial contributions enable us to flexibly support our teachers and students as needs arise. [You can donate via PayPal at this link](#) (note: you don't need a PayPal account to do so) or drop off a check (made out to DCS PTA) at the school office. If you are a local business owner and would like to make a tax deductible donation from your business, please email us at [durhammepta@gmail.com](mailto:durhammepta@gmail.com) to request a donation receipt.

### Questions? Need More Information?

Please feel free to connect by email ([durhammepta@gmail.com](mailto:durhammepta@gmail.com)) or by finding us on Facebook at [Durham Community School PTA](#).





## Community Programs – Fall and Winter at DCS

### SparkYou: Slime Masters (Grades K-5)

Each week, kids will dive into the science of slime through hands-on experiments exploring the chemistry of matter. From glow-in-the-dark goo to magnetic slime, they'll create a new slime every class—building focus, confidence, and a love for science through sensory play. It's the science parents love to hate, but kids can't get enough of—because getting messy has actually been shown to be calming and therapeutic!



**Instructor:** Natasha Skoberla, SparkYou

**DCS Art Room (K-5), Mondays, 3:15 – 4:15 p.m.**

**Slime Masters I**      Thursdays, October 30 – December (no class 11/27)      \$190



### Maine Nature Art (Grades K-5)

Seasonal delights will inspire your budding artists during these sessions. Come join in and bring a snack, water bottle, and imagination inspired by all Maine has to offer outside of the green months.

**Instructor:** Sarah Cass

**DCS Art Room (K-5), Mondays, 3:20 – 4:20 p.m.**

**Late Fall**      October 27 – December 8 (no class 11/10)      \$85

**Winter**      January 5 – February 23 (no class 1/19, 2/16)      \$85

**Register for these classes and more, online at [rsu5cp.org](http://rsu5cp.org)**



### Planned Absence Request

Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Grade: \_\_\_\_\_

*It is important for students to be in school every day. Regular attendance is closely linked to academic success and required by law.*

*This form must be submitted prior to a planned absence in order for the absence to be considered for approval. Recognizing the importance of school attendance on learning, students will not be allowed more than five excused planned absence days in a school year. If a student has exceeded this number of planned absences or has missed 10% or more of the school year, planned absences will be marked as unexcused and may lead to truancy.*

*Although teachers in some grades may be able to provide some make-up assignments, it is very hard to replicate the quality of assignments and instruction that result from daily classroom interactions. Teachers are not expected to provide materials before an absence.*

Date(s) of planned absence requested: \_\_\_\_\_

Reason for absence:

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Parent/Guardian Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

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This portion is to be completed by the teacher and principal. Once complete, a copy of this form will be returned to the parent/guardian(s).

*The criteria we use to determine if an absence is excused or unexcused is if a student has taken five planned absence days and/or missed 10% or more of the school days prior to the request.*

*This child has taken \_\_\_\_\_ planned absence days this year and missed \_\_\_\_\_% of the school year. As a result, the absence is*

☐ *Excused*

☐ *Unexcused*

Administrator Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_